Implementation of recommendations of Prof. Yashpal Committee

†2540. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 2695 given in Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 2009 and state:

(a) the details of the funds demanded by his Ministry and Planning Commission for implementing the recommendations of Prof. Yashpal Committee, year-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to appoint additional 9.86 lakh teachers for improvement of student-teacher ratio, to provide twenty days in-service training for teachers, free distribution of text books to all children of primary and middle classes and regular evaluation of students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No funds have been demanded by this Ministry for implementation of the recommendations of Prof. Yashpal Committee.

(b) Under Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) since inception and till 30.09.2009, 10.11 lakh teachers have been appointed. Free textbooks have been provided to 9.05 crore children and inservice training to 21.79 lakh teachers during the current year up to 30.09.2009. For evaluation of students, NCERT conducts achievement surveys from time-to-time and the States are encouraged to put in place continuous and comprehensive assessment processes of students achievement.

Setting up of schools under PPP Model

2541. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel constituted by Planning Commission has proposed setting up of 2500 schools under the Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model to cater to 40 lakh students;

(b) if so, whether 60 per cent of the enrolled students as select students, will be given Government assistance at the rate of Rs. 1600 each per month;

(c) whether the proposal suggests that Government should give the infrastructure grants for every school estimated to cost between Rs. 4.00 and Rs. 6.00 crore; and

(d) the other salient features of this 'Design, Build, Finance and Operate' model?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir. The Planning Commission has not constituted any

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

such panel. A "Round Table on School Education" has been set up under this Ministry and that has constituted a sub-committee to develop a framework for public private partnership for schools.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Standard of education in the country

†2542. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble Prime Minister has recently remarked that the standard of education in the country is far below the standard of education at international level; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) In a speech made at the convocation of Punjab University on November 3, 2009, the Prime Minister had remarked that a major problem faced is in the quality of higher education that our institutions impart. It was stated that most of these institution produce pass outs who are nowwhere near international standards.

(b) While there are several institutions of world class quality in India, the general standards of higher education requires improvement to match international standards. Improvement of quality of higher education is a continuous process. A substantial increase in Plan allocation has been made in the Eleventh Plan aiming at improvement of quality through increased allocation for improvement of infrastructure in the existing higher and technical educational institutions and by way of setting up of new quality institutions such as Central Universities in uncovered States, establishment of Innovation Universities aiming at world class standards, quality institutions such as Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, Schools for Planning and Architecture, establishment of 50 centres for training; and research in frontier areas of Science and Technology.

Quality of teaching in higher education is a matter of great concern. When the Pay Review Committee recommendations in respect of teachers in colleges and universities were taken up by the Central Government, the salaries and other allowances for teachers, higher than those for the Group "A" Civil Services, was agreed to by the Government on the condition that the eligibility conditions would be tightened and qualifications would be of a high order. The age of superannuation of teachers in higher education has also been increased from 62 years to 65 years. These steps would ensure that over time the best talent comes into the academic professions through a process of tightening entry and liberalizing pay and other incentives.